Utah Office of

Multicultural Affairs

STRENGTHENING AND EMPOWERING UTAH'S MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY

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First Annual Multicultural Youth Leadership Summit

On April 30, 2013 the Utah Office of Multicultural Affairs held its first annual Multicultural Youth Leadership Summit at the Davis Conference Center in Layton, Utah. Over 500 students and 150 parents, educators, state officials, and community members attended this one-day conference in support of Governor Gary R. Herbert's "66 by 2020" education initiative, a state goal that 66% of all working-age Utahns will hold a post-secondary degree or certificate by 2020.

Lt. Governor Greg Bell welcomed students while KUTV News Anchor Cristina Flores and Senator Ross Romero emceed the event. CoolSpeak, a youth engagement company, facilitated breakout sessions centered around this year's theme "I am the CHANGE. It's up to ME!"

Breakout sessions focused on leadership and empowerment, the importance of a college education/financial literacy, the power of youth, effective communication skills, and appreciating our differences. Parents and educators also had the opportunity to attend a special breakout session discussing



Joaquin Zihuatanejo, Samantha Lopez, Natasha Carrizosa, Carlos Ojeda Jr., Claudia Nakano, Samantha Eldridge, and Ernesto Mejia

ways to engage and serve our diverse students.

As part of the generous sponsorships by American Express, Chevron, KUTV Channel 2 News, and Zions Bank, (Continued on Page 3)



Diversity Day at the Capitol

On March 14, 2013 over 500 students and 200 community members came together to celebrate Utah's growing multicultural community. Governor Gary R. Herbert, Lt. Governor Greg Bell, Representative Rebecca Lockhart, and Representative Rebecca Chavez-Houck addressed the audience and challenged students to stay in school and graduate. Governor Herbert motivated students by stating they are the future leaders of tomorrow and that "all too soon...you will be taking over."

Representative Lockhart followed the Governor's speech with stories of her own cultural background and noted that "Utah is strong because of our" diversity." Representative Chavez-Houck stressed the importance of each student sharing their story and the imprint they will (Continued on Page 2)

Navigating Difference: Cultural Competency Training

Utah Multicultural Affairs is committed to promoting a climate of inclusion by facilitating diversity in state government and the community. As a means of achieving this goal, Multicultural Affairs hosted a 3-day workshop February 5-7th centered on cultural competency training to provide state departments, organizations and community leaders with the insight, direction and guidance that will increase the effectiveness of program and service delivery to diverse audiences.

The training is based on Washington State University Extension "Navigating Difference: Cultural Competency Training" and is designed to assist outreach professionals to work effectively across many dimensions of diversity including race, sex, age, physical and mental ability, sexual orientation, religion, class, philosophy and culture.

The training was limited to 30 participants representing various state departments and organizations. Participants received 18 hours of training and left with a better understanding of how to:

- Engage in culturally diverse settings, initiatives and programs;
- Integrate cultural competencies in the planning, implementation and evaluation of programming; and,
- Practice strategies for successful intercultural communication in professional settings.

Multicultural Affairs plans to offer this training as part of their continuing programming. The next training is scheduled for June 11-13th and includes 18 hours of training, training materials, and lunch. Interested individuals are encouraged to register early as space is limited. Register online HERE!



National Foster Care Month

By Jordan Ames, Foster Family Recruiter, Utah Foster Care Foundation

May is National Foster Care Month, and this May, the Utah Foster Care Foundation is celebrating! On May 10th, the Utah Foster Care Foundation and Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker were present to honor Jennifer Larkin, a preschool teacher in the Granite School District, with Foster Mother of the Year. During this celebration, Mayor Becker also issued a proclamation naming May as National Foster Care Month in an effort to raise awareness about Utah's abused and neglected children and the ongoing need for families to care for them.

In the Salt Lake Valley alone, there are around 900 children in DCFS (Division of Child and Family Services) custody. These children come from our own neighborhoods and communities. Unfortunately, there is an ongoing need for families to care for Utah's children. Not only is the need for more foster families ongoing, but there are never enough foster parents to care for Utah's children who need a safe and stable home.

The Utah Foster Care Foundation also plans to hold other events during the month of May, such as a foster/adoptive family panel, where people can come and hear from foster families about what it is like to be a foster parent. Please visit our website: www.utahfostercare.org, or visit us on Facebook for more details and information. To learn more about becoming a foster parent, you can also call our office at 1-877-505-KIDS and ask to speak with a recruiter.

Diversity Day at the Capitol

(Continued from Page 1) make in the state's future.

During this time educators and students in the community were recognized for their work in the community. Community Education Recognitions were awarded to Frances P. Battle, Phil H. Uipi, and Dr. Jose Enriquez. Student recognitions were awarded to Esparanza Rocha, Moana Fololini 'Ulu'ave, and Victor DeLara.

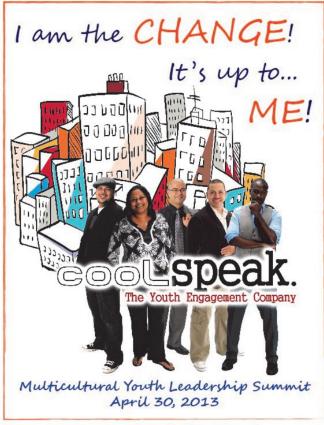
Multicultural Affairs plans to continue this tradition and will invite students back to the Capitol next year during "Multicultural Youth Leadership Day at the Capitol" on February 19th.

Multicultural Youth Leadership Summit

(Continued from Page 1) each student received a 12 x 14 poster featuring CoolSpeak. After the event concluded, members of CoolSpeak met with students one-on-one to take pictures and sign posters.

Multicultural Affairs plans to host this as an annual event with hopes that students learn how they can be agents of positive social change in an increasingly diverse and multicultural community and that Utah's youth dream bigger, try harder, and GRADUATE!

If you would like a poster please contact Samantha Lopez at (801) 245-7214 or samanthalopez@utah.gov.













Quick Fact!

Did you know? that in 1978, a joint congressional resolution established Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. The first 10 days of May were chosen to coincide with two important milestones in Asian/Pacific American history: the arrival in the United States of the first Japanese immigrants (May 7, 1843) and contributions of Chinese workers to the building of the transcontinental railroad, completed May 10, 1869. In 1992, Congress expanded the observance to a month long celebration. **Source:** U.S. Census Bureau



Mark Sullivan, Chevron Salt Lake Refinery Manager, presents Dr. David W. Pershing, President of the University of Utah, with a check for \$240,000 in support of the ACCESS program.

ACCESS Program for Women in Science and Mathematics

On January 30, 2013 the University Of Utah College Of Science's ACCESS program for Women in Science and Mathematics announced a new partnership with Chevron and the MCA's Multicultural Commission. As part of this partnership, Mark Sullivan, manager of the Chevron Salt Lake Refinery, presented ACCESS with a \$240,000 grant in support of increased efforts to expand the program's outreach.

The ACCESS program was established in 1991 under the leadership of Dr. Hugo Rossi, and since then has helped more than 500 young women. Of the women who have graduated, 76 percent have earned a degree in a science or science-field, with 15 percent going on to receive an advanced degree in a science-related field. In 2009, the average high school grade point average of accepted candidates was 3.97, demonstrating that the selected women are academically superior in addition to having a strong commitment to their communities.

Many speakers, including University of Utah president, Dr. David W. Pershing, took the stand to thank Chevron for this wonderful grant and to remind the community of the importance of education for young women in Utah. Heather McEwen-Hatch, a participant of the ACCESS 2003 class, remarked:

"ACCESS was most definitely a pivotal point in my life and I know that I would not have had the courage to take math and science in college without it. I owe where my life is headed, in a scholarly and career aspect, to the ACCESS program."

Lt. Governor Greg Bell emphasized the importance of offering these opportunities to young women in the State of Utah. "Gov. Gary Herbert and I are dedicated to achieving the goal of seeing 66 percent of Utahns with a higher education degree, or certification, by the year 2020," said Bell. "Part of meeting this challenge is ensuring that underserved residents have a pathway to prosperity, which benefits all of us. I applaud Chevron for helping young women achieve their dreams of having a career in science or mathematics." For more information about ACCESS visit http://science.utah.edu/students/ access.php.

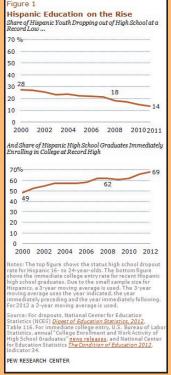
Hispanic High School Graduates Pass Whites in Rate of College Enrollment

A recent report issued by the Pew Research Center, revealed that a record seven-in-ten (69%) Hispanic high school graduates in the class of 2012 enrolled in college that fall, two percentage points higher than the rate (67%)

among their white counterparts. This is an increase by 20 percentage points from 2000 where only 49% of Hispanic high school graduates immediately enrolled in college the following fall. According to the Pew Research Center, this is a result of a long-term increase in college enrollment by Latino youths, which have been driven partly by their declining fortunes in the job market.

Since the onset of the recession at the end of 2007, unemployment among Latinos ages 16 to 24 has gone up by seven percentage points, compared with a five percentage point rise among white youths. With jobs harder to find, more Latino youths may have chosen to stay in school longer (Fry & Taylor, 2012, p. 5). Another factor, the Pew Research Center posits, could be the importance that Latino families place on a college education. According to a 2009 Pew Hispanic Center survey, 88% of Latinos ages 16 and older agreed that a college degree is necessary to get ahead in life today (Pew Hispanic Center, 2009).

Source: Pew Research Center



Fred T. Korematsu Day

Fred T. Korematsu was an ordinary person who took an extraordinary stand. In 1942, at the age of 23, he refused to go to the government's incarceration camps for Japanese Americans. After being arrested and convicted of defying the government's order, he appealed the case taking it to the Supreme Court. However, his case was ruled against him due to military necessity. Korematsu's case was re-opened in 1982, when Professor Peter Irons discovered key documents that government lawyers had hidden from the Supreme Court.

On November 10, 1983, Korematsu's conviction was overturned in the U.S. District Court of the Northern District of California. It was a pivotal moment in civil rights history.

In 1998, Korematsu received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, from President Bill Clinton. After 9/11, Korematsu continued to speak out, filing a number of legal briefs with the Supreme Court on behalf of American Muslim inmates being held in U.S. military prisons. In 2005, after more than 60 years of activism, Korematsu passed away at the age of 86.

In 2010, California Governor Schwarzenegger signed AB 1775 (Furutani, Block), the Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution bill. This is the first day in United States history named after an Asian American. The law encourages schools across California to teach students about Fred Korematsu's story and its relevance today. (Continued on Page 5)

The Perfect Vision: A Poem for the 66% by 2020 Initiative

Joaquin Zihuatanejo, poet, spoken word artist, and award-winning teacher and member of CoolSpeak recited a poem he wrote in support of the 2013 Multicultural Youth Leadership Summit.

> The Perfect Vision: A Poem for the 66% by 2020 Initiative

Picture a puzzle Missing one piece Picture your future Missing your peace Picture my voice Not spitting this piece The silence of a dream unfulfilled is deafening Like remembering What grand pops told you about self-fulfilling destiny The time is now The future's at hand Doesn't take a mathematician To understand The numbers don't lie The way 3.14 equals to pi If you stop it at two decimal places It's room full of a thousand faces A thousand dreams Yet to be heard Yet to be seen Let them hear your voices Let them see what you mean Be one of the 66 percent Let your future be heaven sent Help us make it happen by 2020 You see like my sight it's the perfect vision This is our mission

Degrees in hand
University cap and gown
The gauntlet's been thrown down
Do you have the courage to pick it up?
The strength to finish the quest
The resolve to be nothing short of the best
Now picture a puzzle
The last piece in place

Now picture a puzzie
The last piece in place
Picture the look
On your mother's face
The puzzle's your future
The image is true
Your dream is complete
The missing piece is you

Joaquin Zihuatanejo

Student Spotlight

Thelina Sabrina Smith is a Biomedical Engineering student at the University of Utah with an emphasis in Biomaterials. She will complete her Bachelor's degree spring 2014 with a minor in Leadership Studies with plans to go on to obtain a Master's degree with a Nanotechnology focus.

Thelina has held various leadership roles within the University of Utah's College of Engineering and has been greatly involved in the community. She chartered the first National Society of Black Engineers chapter at the University of Utah and cur-



rently serves at the chapter's president. She was also instrumental in reactivating the U's Society of Women Engineers section and went on to hold a SWE regional position as the Region Collegiate Representative for this year. Thelina has also held the role as a Biomedical Engineering Ambassador for the College of Engineering.

Thelina was recently crowned Miss Black Utah USA® 2013 and will compete for the title of Miss Black USA® in August. Being an ambitious and perseverant young woman, Thelina is constantly seeking ways to make a positive impact in the community and grow as a leader and catalyst.

During her reign as Miss Black Utah USA®, she plans to promote her personal platform, "Engineering the Leaders of Tomorrow, Because Tomorrow Matters Today"- an initiative to motivate minorities and underrepresented students to engage in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM fields). Thelina will also be promoting the primary platform championed by the Miss Black USA® Organization; "The Heart Truth Campaign," by raising awareness of heart disease in women. Thelina is truly grateful for this opportunity to reach out and encourage our next generation of leaders, innovators and educators.

You can support Thelina and her platform by emailing MissBlackUtah2013@gmail.com.

Fred T. Korematsu Day

(Continued from Page 4) Similarly, earlier this year, Governor Gary R. Herbert proclaimed January 30th as Fred Korematsu Day. Representatives from the Topaz Board,

the Korematsu Institute, JACL members and other local dignitaries were present to commemorate this occasion. For more information on Fred Korematsu Day please visit www.fredkorematsuday.org.



International Visitor Leadership Program

Each year, the Utah Council for Citizen Diplomacy (UCCD) welcomes emerging leaders from different countries to Utah for professional and cultural exchanges. According to its 2012 Annual Report, UCCD hosted 468 visitors on 71 different programs from 103 countries.

With its mission "to promote respect and understanding between the people of Utah and other nations" UCCD strives to design tailored, educational and professional programs, ranging in length from one day to several weeks, for mid-career level professionals, young adults, and youth from around the world.

Multicultural Affairs takes part in promoting this program by hosting meetings between visitors and the Multicultural Commission. Through these meetings, visitors receive an overview of Multicultural Affairs and Multicultural Commission's commitment to promoting multicultural and human rights awareness and highlights measures taken by state government to ensure that the interests of minority groups, including refugees and immigrants, are protected through the application of appropriate state resources. To learn more about UCCD or to obtain a copy of their 2012 Annual Report visit http://utahdiplomacy.org/2012-annual-report-is-here/.

Father's Day: June 16, 2013

The idea of Father's Day was conceived slightly more than a century ago by Sonora Dodd of Spokane, Washington, while she listened to a Mother's Day sermon in 1909. Dodd wanted a special day to honor her father, William Smart, a widowed Civil War veteran who was left to raise his six children on a farm. A day in June was chosen for the first Father's Day celebration, June 17, 1910, proclaimed by Spokane's mayor because it was the month of Smart's birth. The first presidential proclamation honoring fathers was issued in 1966 when President Lyndon Johnson designated the third Sunday in June as Father's Day. Father's Day has been celebrated annually since 1972 when President Richard Nixon signed the public law that made it permanent.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

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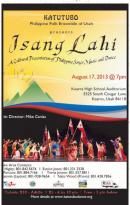
Lt. Governor Greg Bell, Chair, Multicultural Commission Claudia Nakano, Director, Multicultural Affairs Samantha Eldridge, Special Projects Coordinator, Multicultural Affairs

Please send submissions to this Newsletter and/or to be included in the Newsletter Mailing list to <u>seldridge@utah.gov</u>.

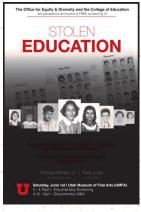


























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